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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
BURTON LATIMER



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1972

F. R. N. LYNCH, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BURTON LATIMER

Chairman of the Council:

D. J. Ashby

Public Health Committee:

Chairman - M. Patrick

D. J. Ashby	J. Meads
D. N. Hole (Rev.)	A. A. Morby, C.C.
D. Long	A. F. Mutlow
J. Stokes	

Clerk to the Council:

C. E. Lansom

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority:

Medical Officer of Health:

F. R. N. Lynch, M.B., B.ch., B.A.O., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.

(Medical Officer of Health Northamptonshire Health Division No. 2
and Kettering M.B.)

Secretary:

Miss M. W. Langley

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor:

A. McMillan, Cert. R.S.A.S., M.I.B.E.

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October, 1973.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Burton Latimer.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

In accordance with my statutory duty as your Medical Officer of Health, I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Environmental Health of the Urban District of Burton Latimer for the year 1972.

It is my twelfth Annual Report and its contents have been compiled on the instructions set out in the Department of Health and Social Security Circular No. 1/73 which was received on 5th January 1973.

The Vital Statistics for the District are given on page 6 and do not, I think, require special comment.

The amount of Infectious Disease notified during the year was very low; that which was recorded is described on pages 29 to 33.

On 26th May, information was received that foreign necklaces had been imported, mainly from Africa, the beads of which contained a toxic poison i.e. Abrin.

A check was accordingly made on Fancy-goods and Toy Shops and Head Teachers were apprised of the situation. Thirty strings of these beads were found in various places throughout Northamptonshire Health Division No. 2 and arrangements were made for their destruction by incineration.

An outbreak of Smallpox occurred in Yugoslavia in March and a circular letter was sent to each General Practitioner in the area advising vaccination against Smallpox for persons travelling to Yugoslavia.

Also in March, I was informed that instances of illegal dumping of Cyanide Waste within the County had recently come to light. This is a dangerous and illegal practice and the Public Health Inspector satisfied himself that no dumping of this kind had taken place on Council or privately owned tips in this County District.

The Clerk, Mr. C. E. Lansom, had to go on sick-leave and since 2nd October 1972, his duties have been discharged by Mr. D. Dunsford Price, the Town Clerk of Kettering M.B.

/Continued.

I must once again thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support during the year and Mr. McMillan and Miss Langley for their help in preparing this Report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

F. R. N. LYNCH

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL

CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Comparative Statistics for the Five-Year Period 1968 to 1972

	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Area of the Urban District (acres)	2,756	2,756	2,756	2,756	2,756
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	5,270	5,450	5,660	5,360	5,410
Number of Live Births	126	120	111	122	102
Legitimate	120	112	108	118	94
Illegitimate	6	8	3	4	8
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	23.9	22.0	19.6	22.8	18.9
Number of Still Births	4	2	-	2	2
Legitimate	4	2	-	2	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births	30.8	16.4	-	16.1	19.2
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population	0.8	0.4	-	0.3	0.4
Number of Deaths	54	55	58	55	53
Death Rate per 1,000 population	10.3	10.1	10.2	10.3	9.8
Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	-	-	-	-	-
Number of Infant Deaths	4	1	1	-	1
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	31.8	8.3	9.0	-	9.8
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	7.9	8.3	9.0	-	9.8
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	7.9	8.3	9.0	-	9.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	38.5	24.6	9.0	16.1	28.8
Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis including late effects	-	1	-	2	-
Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	-	-	2	-
Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms	9	9	16	9	7
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths from Enteritis and Diarrhoea under two years of age	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	-	-	-	-	-
Natural increase in population (i.e. increase of births over deaths)	72	65	53	67	49

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

AREA (acres)	2,756
CENSUS POPULATION 1951	4,111
1961	4,401
1971	5,419
POPULATION (Registrar General's Mid-Year Estimate 1972)	5,410
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (1951)	1,341
(1961)	1,499
(1971)	1,933
(1972)	2,008
RATEABLE VALUE (at 31st December 1972)	£226,580
SUM REPRESENTED BY PENNY RATE (1972/73)	£2,220

SOCIAL CONDITIONS INCLUDING CHIEF OCCUPATIONS OF
THE INHABITANTS

The social conditions of the district are satisfactory and at the end of the year the rate of unemployed in the area was 1.3% of the working population and the National Rate was 3.5%. The Density of the population is 1.9 persons per acre and the Housing Factor is 2.7 persons.

There are several important factories. The largest firms are engaged in the production of footwear, cereal food, aluminium utensils and clothing.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS 1972

							<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>									
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	47	47	94
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	8
							<u>51</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>102</u>
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.9
Adjusted Birth Rate (comparability factor 0.88)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.6
							<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>									
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	2	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
							<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.2
<u>DEATHS</u>									
Number registered (all causes)	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	21	53
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.8
Adjusted Death Rate (comparability factor 1.12)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.0
<u>DEATHS FROM CERTAIN SPECIFIED CAUSES</u>									
Cardio-vascular disease (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	10	27
Malignant neoplasms (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	7
Diseases of the respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
Cerebrovascular disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5	9
<u>DEATHS FROM MATERNAL CAUSES</u>									
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS (under 1 year)</u>									
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	125.0
<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS (under 4 weeks)</u>									
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.8

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1972

LIST NO.	CAUSE OF DEATH	SEX	ALL AGES	UNDER 4 WEEKS	4 WEEKS-		1-4	AGE IN YEARS				75 & over
					1 YEAR	1 YEAR		45+	55+	65+		
B18	Other infective and parasitic diseases	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
B19 (4)	Malignant neoplasm - intestine	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
B19 (6)	Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
B19 (7)	Malignant neoplasm - breast	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
B19 (9)	Malignant neoplasm - prostate	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
B19 (11)	Other malignant neoplasms	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
B23	Anaemias	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
B28	Ischaemic heart disease	M	13	-	-	-	-	1	3	5	4	4
B29	Other forms of heart disease	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	4
B30	Cerebrovascular disease	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2
B46 (6)	Other diseases of circulatory system	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2
B33 (1)	Bronchitis and emphysema	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	2
B34	Peptic ulcer	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
B38	Nephritis and nephrosis	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
B46 (11)	Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
B42	Congenital anomalies	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
B44	Other causes of perinatal mortality	F	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
BE47	Motor vehicle accidents	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
<hr/>												
T O T A L S				1	-	-	-	2	4	11	14	14
				-	-	-	1	-	1	4	15	15

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

1. POPULATION

The Registrar General's mid-year estimate of the population (1972) was 5,410, 50 more than the mid-year estimate for 1971.

2. BIRTHS

There were 102 live births in 1972, 20 less than in the previous year. This gives a crude birth rate of 18.9 per 1,000 population. This rate, standardised on the basis of the age and sex composition of the population, gives an adjusted rate of 16.6. The adjusted, or corrected, birth rate is obtained by multiplying the crude rate by a figure known as the Comparability Factor. The factor for Burton Latimer is 0.88. The adjusted birth rate of 16.6 compares with the rate of 23.0 for 1971 and the provisional crude rate for England and Wales of 14.8 per 1,000 population.

3. DEATHS

There were 53 deaths from all causes in 1972, 2 less than in 1971, giving a crude death rate of 9.7 and an adjusted death rate of 11.0. The Comparability Factor in this case for Burton Latimer is 1.12; the provisional death rate for England and Wales is 12.1.

4. DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD

Of the 53 deaths during the year, 43 bodies were disposed of by cremation at Kettering Borough Crematorium, giving a percentage of 81.1.

5. INFANTILE MORTALITY

There was one infant death registered in the District in 1972. The Infant Mortality Rate was 9.8 per 1,000 live births. There were no deaths in 1971. The corresponding rate for England and Wales as a whole is 17.0. This was also a Neonatal Death, occurring in the first month of life, giving a Neonatal Mortality Rate of 9.8 per 1,000 live births. The current rate for England and Wales is 12.0. I append details of this death:-

<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>
1 hour	M	Hydrops Foetalis

6. STILL BIRTHS

There were two still births during the year. The still birth rate is 19.2 per 1,000 total births and the rate for England and Wales is 12.0. I append details of these deaths:-

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Cause</u>
F	Renal Agenesis. Multiple Congenital Abnormalities. Turner's Syndrome
F	Toxaemia. Breech Delivery

7. MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were again no deaths classed to pregnancy or childbirth.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF

HEALTH SERVICES

FOR THE AREA

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

In subsequent sections, full details will be found relating to infectious diseases and environmental health within the Urban District, for which services the Council is directly responsible.

The present section is related to those health services which concern more the personal health and welfare of the individual, rather than public health and the community. The Health Committee of the Northamptonshire County Council is responsible for the administration of many of these services under Part III of the 1946 National Health Service Act.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Department of Pathology, Kettering and District General Hospital, is available for the examination of specimens in connection with the diagnosis and control of infectious diseases. One hundred and one faeces specimens were examined during the year.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

This is one of the services for which the County Council is responsible and is operated from Kettering Ambulance Station. In addition, the St. John Ambulance Brigade operate an ambulance which is used in connection with the work of the Brigade.

DOMICILIARY SERVICES

These include District Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors, who are all highly trained, qualified nurses on the staff of the County Medical Officer. The Home Help Service, also provided by the County Council, is proving more and more valuable in relieving people of domestic worries during periods of illness or confinement and in helping old folks to remain in their own houses, so that they can retain their treasured independence.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

Out-patients clinics provided at Kettering & District General Hospital:-

Chest	- Monday 3.30 p.m. (2nd & 4th) (Treatment) Friday 8.45 a.m. (Diagnosis)
Dental	- Thursday 9.00 a.m.
Dermatology	- Monday 9.00 a.m. (3rd) Tuesday 1.30 p.m.
Ear, Nose and Throat	- Tuesday 9.00 a.m. Thursday 2.00 p.m.
Geriatrics	- Wednesday 2.00 p.m.
Gynaecology and Obstetrics	- Monday 9.00 a.m. Tuesday 2.00 p.m. Thursday 2.00 p.m. Friday 1.30 p.m.

G.U. Cystoscopy	- Thursday 8.30 a.m.
General Medicine	- Monday 2.00 p.m. Wednesday 8.30 a.m. Thursday 2.00 p.m. (1st & 3rd) Friday 8.30 a.m.
Physical Medicine	- Tuesday 2.00 p.m. Friday 9.00 a.m.
Ophthalmology	- Monday 10.00 a.m. (1st, 3rd & 5th) (Children's Eye Clinic) Wednesday 9.00 a.m. Friday 9.00 a.m.
Orthopaedic	- Monday 2.00 p.m. (1st, 3rd & 5th) Tuesday 2.00 p.m. (2nd & 4th) Thursday 2.00 p.m.
Orthodontics	- Monday 9.15 a.m. & 2.00 p.m. Tuesday 9.15 a.m. Wednesday 9.15 a.m. & 2.15 p.m.
Paediatrics	- Thursday 9.00 a.m.
Plastic Surgery	- Wednesday 9.30 a.m. (1st & 3rd)
Psychiatry	- Monday 9.30 a.m. Monday 2.00 p.m. (1st & 3rd) Wednesday 2.00 p.m. Thursday 9.30 a.m. & 1.30 p.m.
Radiotherapy	- Wednesday 2.00 p.m. Thursday 2.00 p.m. (2nd, 4th & 5th)
General Surgery	- Monday 9.15 a.m. Monday 2.00 p.m. (2nd) Tuesday 9.15 a.m. Wednesday 8.30 a.m. Friday 2.00 p.m.
Venereal Disease (Women)	- Tuesday 4.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.
(Men)	- Tuesday 5.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Wart Clinic	- Monday 2.00 p.m. (1st, 3rd & 5th)

An appointment system is operated for all the above clinics except that for Venereal Disease.

A Casualty and daily Fracture Clinic, covered by an Orthopaedic Surgeon, is held at Kettering General Hospital from 9.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. each day except Saturday and Sunday.

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINIC - NORTHAMPTON GENERAL HOSPITAL

(Women)	- Monday 5.15 p.m. - 6.30 p.m. Friday 2.15 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.
(Men)	- Wednesday 2.00 p.m. - 3.00 p.m. Friday 5.00 p.m. - 6.30 p.m.

RELAXATION CLASSES FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

Health Centre - Monday 2.15 p.m.

WELL BABY CLINICS

Health Centre - Wednesday afternoon (1st, 3rd & 4th)
Tuesday & Friday afternoon

SALE OF WELFARE FOODS (National Dried Milk and Vitamin Preparations)

Health Centre - Monday to Friday 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Poliomyelitis and Tetanus and vaccination against Smallpox are free services, available from the family doctor. Certain age groups of children can also be given B.C.G. vaccination to protect against Tuberculosis; this is done through the School Health Service.

A vaccine for the protection of infants against Measles is available and, in accordance with the policy of the County Health Department, a campaign for the control of and it is hoped ultimate eradication of this disease was commenced in the autumn of 1968.

OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE COMMITTEE

This Committee, which has been established for over 20 years, is made up of representatives of local organisations and also members of the Council. Amongst other things, the Committee organises a Darby and Joan Club which meets every week. The Club has a nominal membership of 90, although the average attendance at the Club is only 65.

During the summer of 1972, 3 half-day outings were arranged and visits were made to four indoor entertainments during the winter. In May, 48 members went to Southsea under the Committee's own holiday scheme; no members participated in the County Holiday Scheme.

During 1972 the chiropodist gave 632 treatments in visits at a room set aside for the purpose at Burton House. As from 1st January 1972, the charge to each elderly patient was increased to 30p.

In 1965 the W.R.V.S. at Burton Latimer was re-formed with a view to starting a meals-on-wheels service for the benefit of elderly people living alone. Following an appeal by the Chairman of the Council a special delivery van has been purchased and presented to the W.R.V.S. for the meals-on-wheels service in Burton Latimer. This service now supplies 70 meals every Tuesday and Thursday and they are prepared at the canteen of a local factory. The recipients pay 5p per meal, which is subsidised at the rate of 2½p from the County Council and 2½p from the Urban District Council; each meal is also subsidised by the factory management concerned by the sum of 5p.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 - 1951 - SECTION 47

These Acts empower local authorities to require the compulsory admission to hospital in certain cases of persons in need of care and attention.

No formal action was taken under this Section of these Acts during the year.

I was asked to consider application of this Section in two cases during the year. It was possible to deal with one case by increasing the amount of domestic support and domiciliary help which she was receiving and the other patient has since been persuaded to enter County Social Services Residential Accommodation.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply to Burton Latimer comes from Pitsford Reservoir where the raw water is filtered and softened before distribution takes place. The quality and quantity of the supply was satisfactorily maintained throughout the district during 1972.

During the year there was no contamination in the town supply and no plumbo solvent action.

Pressure problems are being experienced in the Cranford Road Area of the town. The Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board has been asked to investigate the problem.

The number of bacteriological examinations carried out by the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board was as follows:-

	<u>No.</u>
Pitsford Treated Water	197
Cransley Treated Water	95
Bulk supply from the Great Ouse Water Authority	49
From distribution system in Burton Latimer	30

The results of these analyses were satisfactory.

HARDNESS OF THE WATER SUPPLY

The total hardness is within the range of 210 to 310 calcium carbonate per million parts of water.

FLUORIDE CONTENT OF THE WATER SUPPLY

The fluoride content of the water supply varied between 0.2 to 0.3 parts of naturally occurring fluorine per million parts of water.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE DISPOSAL

The effluent from the Kettering Borough Sewage Works, which also serves the town, is not up to the standard required by the River Authority. Consequently this has had the far reaching effect of holding in abeyance any residential development in the Urban District for a period of approximately 3 years or until a new sewage works is built.

Various lengths of private sewers were laid in the Meadows Estate.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION

House refuse is collected once weekly and this service was maintained in an efficient manner throughout the year. The labour force necessary to carry out this work remained stable.

The introduction of the incentive bonus scheme has worked extremely well since its inception. The targets set by the Work Study Department have been well met by the staff.

The labour force necessary to carry out this work remained stable.

Household refuse is disposed of at Buccleuch Quarry which is situated approximately one mile south-east of the town centre. The Council has the lease of the ground from Richard Thomas & Baldwins Ltd.

The tip consists of old ironstone workings and there is ample capacity for many years to come, provided that no serious nuisances arise.

Mechanical equipment is regularly used to level and blend the refuse with builder's rubbish and top soil.

The tip was treated for rats at regular intervals during the year.

Collection of bulky and other items of refuse not normally associated with household refuse is carried out by arrangement with the department. No charge is levied for this service.

STREET CLEANSING

There are some 11.86 miles of roads in the urban area and the Council is responsible for cleansing all of these roads. Out of this total, there are approximately 6.13 miles of trunk roads, Class A and Class III roads which the Council cleanses on behalf of the Northamptonshire County Council. Two Council workmen are engaged full-time on this work.

The town is split up into areas or beats and a set area is treated daily. The road sweepings are deposited at various small depots distributed throughout the town and these sweepings are then collected at regular intervals by the refuse vehicle and deposited at the tip.

GULLIES

There are 593 gullies in the area and a gully emptying firm carry out the emptying of them by mechanical means once in every three months. Previously, this work was done partly by mechanical means and partly by hand. Since its inception, the new arrangement has been an undoubted success. The material removed from the gullies is deposited at the refuse tip where it is used as a top dressing for the household refuse.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are two toilet blocks in the town with facilities for both sexes. The toilets have been reasonably free from vandalism this year. It is to be hoped that this trend will continue. In an effort to stamp out vandalism, the Council has offered a reward of £5 to anyone giving information leading to a conviction. No one has so far come forward.

A full-time attendant would be the answer, but a town of this size could not afford the services of such a person.

LITTER ACT

The varied extensive publicity campaigns, arranged to combat and publicise the litter problem, do not appear to have done a great deal of good when one looks at the litter thrown down.

In order to make some contribution towards reducing the amount of litter being discarded on the public thoroughfares, a number of brightly painted litter bins have been installed at various locations throughout the area.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

36 treatments have been carried out in private and local authority houses and some business premises during the year. In the majority of cases infestation was only of a minor nature.

The prompt request for the early assistance of the Public Health Department has enabled infestations to be quickly eradicated.

An informal notice was served on one house owner regarding an infestation of rats in the garden of his house.

11 requests for the destruction of a wasps' nest were received, and although this is a service which the local authority has no statutory duty to provide, it is one which most people gladly take advantage of when the occasion arises.

The refuse tip was given 4 treatments during the year.

MORTUARY

There is a stone-built bier house at the old cemetery which is used as a mortuary if or when required. This was not used during the year.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1961

There are 21 factories in the district. Routine inspections are carried out.

At 1st August there were 23 outworkers living in Burton Latimer. Most of the work done by these outworkers is in connection with local industries, such as the shoe and clothing trades. Routine inspections were carried out and no contraventions of the Act were found.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961 are to be found at the end of the Report.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The general provisions of this Act came into force on 1st August 1964 and premises already in use on 1st May 1964 were required to register between that date and 31st July 1964.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The total number of registered premises at the end of the year was 26. The total number of persons employed in registered premises is as follows:-

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
62	65

Despite a most extensive publicity campaign which the Department of Labour gave this Act prior to its inception, it has been found in many cases that owners and/or occupiers do not realise their obligations under the Act. This refers particularly to display of notices for the information of employees. Another publicity campaign, similar to the original one, is required.

Inspections under the Act are being carried out and any irregularities found are being intimated in writing to the persons concerned.

SECTION D

PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

HOUSING ACTS

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

Since the original slum clearance programme was submitted to the Minister in July 1955, 177 further unfit houses have been listed, although the majority of these cannot strictly be regarded as slum properties.

With the marked increase in private house prices during the year, there has been a corresponding increase in the number of applications for rented accommodation.

Unfortunately, the Council is not in a position for the present to alleviate this situation by building new units, due to the sewage problems at the Kettering Borough Works.

The Council completed six (6) one-bedroom flats.

This development was used to fill in a small gap site in conjunction with a small through road improvement scheme.

One hundred and ten (110) houses were completed by private enterprise.

There are 163 applications for Council houses on the list.

A rapid increase in house building for the private sector took place (progress on the last remaining area for development at Meadowside Estate was good) and this accounts for the increased completion figures.

HOUSING ACT, 1969

The provision of this Act set out to deal with the problem exposed by the 1967 Survey when it was shown that at that time there were more unfit and sub-standard houses than ever before. 3.7 million houses needed repairs and 2.3 million lacked one or more of the basic amenities. The Act approaches the problem in three ways.

Part 1 of the Act provides for three different types of grant:-

- (a) Improvement Grant of up to £1,000. This is still to remain discretionary and is intended to cover works of a high all-round level for the improvement and repair of existing dwellings with an expected fitness for habitation of 15 years or more and which would require more than the provision of standard amenities. This grant also covers the provision of dwellings by the conversion into flats of a house or building of three or more storeys. For such improvement, the maximum grant will be £1,200. The grant will represent 50% of the approved works with the maximum as shown.
- (b) Standard Grant of up to £200 (£450 in special cases), obtainable by owners as of right for the installation in their dwellings of standard amenities which it lacks. The dwelling should have an expected fitness for habitation of 15 years or more.

A local authority may, in approving a standard grant application, require that the works specified in the application are carried out within a specified time which must be at least 12 months or within such further time as the authority may allow.

The new grant code is designed to apply to a very wide range of housing conditions and is, therefore, limited by a minimum of statutory requirements. As much as possible is left to the local authority's judgement, subject to directions given by the Department of the Environment.

13 standard and one discretionary grants were paid out during the year. This represents an increase of 117% on last year. It is encouraging to note that there has been a slight increase in the number of applications and enquiries being received for improvement grants.

The Housing Act 1969, introduced a method of enabling landlords to obtain a higher rent for controlled tenancies. The local authority has responsibility to ensure that the house has all the standard amenities and is in a good state of repair. When it is satisfied, a Qualification Certificate is issued which enables the landlord to apply for a new rent assessment.

In cases where all the standard amenities are not yet provided, an application from a landlord can still be considered and if the works proposed include works of repair which are considered adequate, a provisional Qualification Certificate is issued pending completion of the work.

This is a very useful and additional encouragement to owners to modernise their houses. In many cases it was necessary to ask for repairs to be carried out.

It is estimated that there are approximately 180 houses suitable for improvement in the town. No street by street schemes have, as yet, been carried out.

The Council continued through the medium of its Broadsheet to draw attention to these grants and to remind owners and occupiers of their existence, particularly the increase in the new scale of grants being made available.

The Council own 88 houses in The Avenues. The houses were built in the 1920's of rendered brick construction under a slate roof. The houses are constructed in pairs and terraces.

The houses although well maintained structurally fall short of the standard set for housing under the 1969 Housing Act.

A scheme has been prepared to provide 43 of the dwellings with the necessary fittings to bring them up to the full twelve point standard (as defined in the 1969 Housing Act).

The facilities to be provided are as follows:-

1. Provision of bathroom at 1st floor level with bath basin and W.C.
2. Provision of a fitted kitchen with sink unit, food store, working tops and base units.
3. Provision of central heating to all rooms.
4. Provision of hot water system.
5. Provision of lighting and power points to all rooms.

The scheme as proposed involves three kinds of houses all of which are of the three-bedroom type. In the case of the 'A' type house, one bedroom has been used for the provision of the 1st floor bathroom, thus making a two-bedroom house. In the case of the other two types, three bedrooms of reasonable dimensions have been maintained.

Three houses were demolished in the year. One was the former Rectory. The remaining two cottages were demolished in conjunction with the renovation of the Elizabethan School to a dwelling.

CARAVANS

There are four licensed sites in the Urban District. No trouble has been experienced with them.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the town.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACT, 1928 and 1936

There are 5 petrol stations where petrol is for sale.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND
SUPERVISION OF FOOD

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

There is no registered private slaughterhouse in the district. The butchers in the town make their own arrangements for this service and this arrangement appears to be working quite satisfactorily.

The following tinned food and meat were condemned during the year:-

Tinned meat and meat portions	70 lbs.
Sundries	25½ oz.
Failure of refrigerated freezer - contents to the value of £9.47	

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

The following is an extract taken from the report by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures on samples taken in the Urban District in the 12 months ending 31st March 1972:-

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	13
Spirit	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fruit Salad	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cheese Spread	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fish Products	...	...	...	...	...	2
Milk Pudding	...	...	...	...	...	1
Creams	...	...	...	...	...	2
Meat Products	...	...	...	...	...	3
Soft Drinks	...	...	...	...	...	1
						<hr/>
T O T A L	...	...	...	...	...	26
						<hr/>

Of the samples taken in the Urban District during the period under review, two were the subject of unsatisfactory comment by the Public Analyst.

A sample of milk was reported to be deficient in solids-not-fat, but as the presence of added water was not confirmed when the freezing point test was applied, no further action was taken.

A sample of cheese spread, which was taken as the result of a complaint, was found to contain crystals of calcium phosphate, which were produced by the combination of calcium from the cheese and sodium phosphate from an emulsifying agent. In explanation, the manufacturers said that they had changed to the use of a complex polyphosphate emulsifying salt and that this had been used in too great a concentration. This caused the development of crystals which gave a gritty taste to the cheese spread. A warning was given to the producers and an undertaking was received that much greater care would be taken in the future.

Two samples of pasteurised milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and were reported to have satisfied the appropriate tests for keeping quality and efficiency of pasteurisation.

MILK SUPPLY

This district is a designated area and all milk sold must be pasteurised, sterilised or tuberculin tested.

FOOD HYGIENE GENERAL REGULATIONS, 1970

There are 25 shops and 4 canteens which are affected by these regulations. Inspections are carried out. These food premises are as follows:-

Principal Trade	No. of Prem- ises	Complying with Regulation 18 (provision of wash-hand-basins)	Premises to which Regulation 21 applies (provision of washing facili- ties for food and equipment)	Complying with Regulation 21
Fish & chip shops	2	1	2	2
Retail butchers	4	2	3	3
General stores	2	0	1	1
Confectioners	1	1	1	1
Canteens	4	4	4	4
Retail grocers	16	11	16	16

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF

AND CONTROL OVER

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

HEALTH SERVICES AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1968 - PUBLIC HEALTH
(INFECTIOUS DISEASES) REGULATIONS - NOTIFICATION OF FOOD
POISONING AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The Infectious Diseases to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health are:-

Acute Encephalitis	Measles
Acute Meningitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Acute Poliomyelitis	Paratyphoid Fever
Anthrax	Plague
Cholera	Relapsing Fever
Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever
Dysentery (Amoebic or Bacillary)	Smallpox
Food Poisoning or suspected Food Poisoning	Tetanus
Infective Jaundice	Tuberculosis
Leprosy	Typhoid Fever
Leptospirosis	Typhus
Malaria	Whooping Cough
	Yellow Fever

Responsibility for notifying a case or suspected case of Food Poisoning or Infectious Disease rests exclusively on the medical practitioner attending the patient unless he believes that another practitioner has already notified the case.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were 5 cases of Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis) notified to me during 1972, compared with 7 cases in the previous year.

MEASLES

One case was recorded as against six in 1971.

DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS

Routine immunisation of infants under one year of age with triple antigen was continued during the year. Immunisation is carried out by the family doctor.

WHOOPING COUGH

No case occurred in 1972.

POLIOMYELITIS

This is the fourth disease which is prevented by routine immunisation in infancy. This is again done by the family doctor. No cases occurred.

GASTRO-INTESTINAL DISEASES

There have been no cases of Gastro-Intestinal Disease due to Dysenteric Organisms.

4 cases of Food Poisoning, due to Salmonella Agona, were reported in one family during August. It was necessary to exclude 2 members of this family from attendance at Burton Latimer Junior School due to the continued excretion of this germ. Arrangements were made for homework to be set for them by the Head Master during their absence from school.

About 12 people who attended a party in a house in Burton Latimer in March were taken ill with symptoms suggestive of suspected Food Poisoning. The illness was of 2 or 3 day's duration and was mild in character.

Routine investigation and laboratory examinations did not however disclose the causative organism and no items of food consumed at the party were available for examination. The episode subsided without further incident.

INFECTIOUS HEPATITIS

No cases were recorded in 1972.

SMALLPOX

35 International Certificates of Vaccination were authenticated by me in order to comply with the International Sanitary Regulations for people who were travelling abroad.

LEPROSY

The Public Health (Leprosy) Regulations, 1966, came into force on 1st March 1966.

Under these Regulations, cases of leprosy are now notifiable to the District Medical Officer of Health. No notifications of leprosy were received.

SCARLET FEVER

No cases were notified. There was one notification last year.

TUBERCULOSIS

One notification of non-respiratory tuberculosis was received during the year. There were no deaths classed to this cause.

The table shows the number of known cases of tuberculosis in the district as at 31st December 1972:-

Tuberculosis	Males	Females	Total
Respiratory	3	-	3
Non-Respiratory	3	-	3
T O T A L	6	-	6

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925

These Regulations empower the Council to prevent persons suffering from tuberculosis to engage in the milk trade. No action was taken during the year.

DANGEROUS NECKLACE BEADS

On 26th May, information was received that foreign necklaces had been imported, the beads of which contain an extremely toxic poison i.e. Abrin.

A check was accordingly made on Fancy-goods and Toy Shops and Head Teachers were apprised of the situation.

The "beads" are really berries of the Vine, Abrus Precatorius which is native to Asia, Africa and Mexico. The colour of the beads is red with black spots on the surface giving a "Ladybird" appearance.

30 strings of these beads were found in various places throughout the Area of Health Division No. 2 and arrangements were made for their destruction by incineration.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1972

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) 1972

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Measles	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4
Totals	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	5

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE (other than Tuberculosis) 1972

Disease	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65+	All Ages	Removed Hospital	Deaths
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-
Totals	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	-

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE
YEAR 1972 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF BURTON LATIMER IN THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	21	21	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	21	21	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT - OUTWORK
(SECTIONS 133 AND 134)

Nature of Work (1)		Section 110		Section 111		
	No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of pros- ecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in un- wholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prose- cutions (7)
Wearing) Making etc. apparel) Cleaning &) Washing	23	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	23	-	-	-	-	-

F. R. N. LYNCH

Medical Officer of Health.



